

**FREDERICK COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES  
FREDERICK SENIOR CENTER  
October 3, 2011**

<b>DOA MEMBERS</b>	<b>DOA STAFF</b>	<b>EXCUSED</b>	<b>UNEXCUSED</b>	<b>GUESTS</b>
Rae Ann Butler	Kitty Devilbiss	Dennis Ford		Jody Spahr, Legacy Financial
Hal Ehart	Susan M. Ramsburg Recording Sec	Stephen Wilhide		
David Gray, Comm	Pat Rosensteel			
Millard Haines	Carolyn True			
Jim Judd				
Diane Julian				
Carol Krimm, Alderman				
Louise Lynch				
Mary Rice				
Debra Savageau				
Virginia Skelley				
Robert Wannemacher				

- I. **Call to Order – Louise Lynch, Chair**, called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.
- II. **Welcome & Introductions –** Louise welcomed all attendees. Guests were present at today's meeting so introductions were done around the table.

- III. Action on the Agenda** – No changes were made to the agenda.
- IV. Approval of Minutes** – The minutes of the September 12, 2011 meeting were approved. All were in favor.
- V. Commissioner's Report** – Commissioner Gray commented on the excellent presentation of the annual report by the CoA to the BoCC on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Louise will be speaking with the BoCC again tomorrow to present the CoA goals and mission. He feels these presentations have been a great opportunity for the BoCC to see how citizens serve the community on various commissions. These meetings can be viewed on the Frederick County website. It is important to keep this BoCC aware of the issues affecting local senior citizens.
- Alderman's Report** – Alderman Krimm spoke on grant funding from the state and federal sources. If this county does not collect the grant funds, they go to another county. It does not go back to the taxpayers. Carol also commented that she has talked with Ed Warhol about a project in the Boston area that helps seniors age in place. It is a community based project which encourages others to help out their neighbors. This would be a good initiative for Frederick County to pursue.
- VI. Discussion concerning planning study initiative, Pat Rosensteel, -**  
The BoCC recently agreed to support a "planning study" to focus on senior issues. There would be no funding involved in this project. Pat Rosensteel will be the lead on this initiative. Pat is looking for ideas to determine the scope of the study and focus areas on which to concentrate. There is no clear direction. It would be more straightforward if a needs assessment had been completed to pin point specific crucial needs. It may be best to focus on just a few issues. Pat would like to have a subcommittee set up to work on this project outside of the CoA meetings. There is no staff at the DoA available to help with this project. Louise will try to get additional guidance from the BoCC when she meets with them tomorrow. A future meeting with the BoCC can be requested for further direction. Many organizations were mentioned at today's meeting. State and/or local universities/colleges may be of assistance. Some of the schools have gerontology programs that have done in house studies. They may also be aware of any grant funding available. Carol Krimm offered to contact the Schaeffer Center in Baltimore who may be able to offer some guidance. This will be added to the agenda each month for updates and discussion.
- Further discussion of hosting a CoA sponsored event, Louise Lynch** – There was discussion on hosting a BoCC forum instead of a

new idea of a legislative breakfast. The forums in the past have been very successful. It is a great opportunity for local citizens to communicate with local officials. A date would need to be established very soon for this endeavor. There are no scheduled elections that would interfere with setting a date. A spring event could be planned. Other senior events would need to be considered to avoid any conflicts. It would be beneficial to have a subcommittee work on this event.

**Update on BoCC presentation concerning the CoA's annual report, Louise Lynch** - This presentation was well received by the BoCC. The BoCC seemed interested in the information presented.

- VII. Health Improvement Priority Setting Summit, Kitty Devilbiss** – Kitty, Hal, and Carolyn will attend this Summit sponsored by the Health Department on October 5<sup>th</sup>. The purpose is to establish priorities in regards to local health needs. There will be agencies, providers, and general public in attendance. It is our opportunity to advocate for senior health issues that need to be addressed. This Summit will be held at the Independent Hose Company on Baughman's Lane. Chronic disease is a large issue. Another issue that should be brought to the forefront is dementia and EMS staff. Another suggestion to be mentioned is the treatment of older adults in the emergency room and the possibility of a geriatric unit. Dental problems and lack of options for seniors is also a problem. Kitty will report back to the CoA next month.

**Grants presentation by County Department, Carolyn True** - There will be a grant presentation for the DoA on October 13<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. It will be held at Winchester Hall. The DoA will be last on the agenda due to the number of grants utilized by the department. This is a public meeting and public comments are welcome. Staff have been encouraging citizens to attend or to write to their local officials. Information to be presented will include the DoA services and the number of people served

- VIII. Adult Public Guardianship Review Board, Raeann Butler** – The number of guardianship cases has increased slightly.

**Partners in Care, Diane Julian** – There have been no recent meetings. The next meeting will be November 14<sup>th</sup>. Just a reminder, there is a continuous need for volunteers. This agency takes donations of used vehicles.

**Mental Health Management Agency, Debra Savageau** – Debra had the understanding that this agency needed someone with a mental

health background. They are in need of a member not just a liaison. Louise and Debra will discuss after today's meeting.

**Citizens, Millard Haines** – Millard has attended two of the Citizen Board meetings. He finds the Board of Trustees very impressive and dedicated to the facility. There is need for a permanent administrator. This is a state of the art facility whose construction costs came in under budget. The management positions are being restructured. The facility needs to become self sustaining and less dependent on county funds. There have been account receivable issues where monies owed have not been collected. The assisted living side is less able to be profitable and is somewhat a drain on the funding. These meetings are open to the public and public comment.

**USM, Ginny Skelley** – Ginny attended the last USM meeting. Michael Busch was a guest speaker at this meeting. He presented information regarding Medicaid stats. Maryland is a 50/50 match with state and federal funds. Eighty percent of Medicaid funds go to older adults and two thirds of residents in long term care facilities are on Medicaid. Redistricting will be addressed in a special session, but no other issues will be discussed.

The rally has changed its name to the Legislative Forum and the date is Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Ginny has volunteered to work at the rally. The USM has been having some website issues. The USM will have a table at the Baltimore Senior Expo. The USM has sent a letter to the state requesting level funding as they are anticipating a shifting of funds.

Ginny also mentioned that she attended the Alzheimer's Action Day at FCC on September 21<sup>st</sup>. There were representatives from Senator Mikulski's and Senator Cardin's offices. No local officials were present. There were many people with lots of comments on different aspects of the illness. She was surprised that some folks were not aware of the services available at the Dept of Aging.

**Nominating, Jim Judd** – Pat Tudor was approved as a new member by the BoCC at Thursday's meeting. The Committee interviewed Daniel Yeeles recently. Jim presented applicable information acquired during the interview. Jim moved to accept Daniel Yeeles as a member of the Commission. Hal seconded the recommendation. All were in favor. Dr. Earl Beck officially resigned the CoA in July, 2011. Joyce Grossnickle will advertise for this open position.

There are two current members who will need to apply to renew their memberships. Louise Lynch and Millard Haines memberships will expire in December, 2011. They will need to send letters of interest by

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October, 24<sup>th</sup>. The terms of the current officers will expire and two new officers will need to be elected in January.

Due to health issues, Jim announced that he will take a three month leave of absence.

**IX. Announcements, All –**

Muriel Cole at the CoA in Kent County sent an email regarding health information and information regarding an EHR-electronic health record. Louise will forward the information to members for review.

The Property Tax Credit committee has had one meeting. This credit will most likely piggyback on the current Homeowner's property tax credit provided by the state. A large majority of Maryland counties have a similar tax credit in place.

Barbara Thrush who is the chair of the Appropriations Committee for the State MDoA announced that DoA monies remain stable.

**X. Adjournment –** The meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Ramsburg  
Recording Secretary

**Upcoming Dates:**

November 29, 2011 - Executive Committee meeting, Frederick Senior Center, Frederick, MD 21702

December 12, 2011 - Commission on Aging, 1:00 at the Frederick Senior Center, Frederick, MD 21702

December 16, 2011 - Be a Santa to a Senior wrapping party, 1:00pm – 4:00pm at the Frederick Senior Center, Frederick, MD 21702